THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

Monday, the 21st August 1961.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

[*Note*:—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

I.—CONDOLENCE RESOLUTIONS.

(1) DEATH OF SRI N. ANNAMALAI PILLAI, A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It has been my lot on many occasions to convey to this House sad news about the death of a colleague or some great person. I have to perform one such sad and mournful duty to-day. We meet to-day, if I may say so, under the shadow of a double tragedy. Members must have heard with profound grief and great sorrow the very sad news of the sudden death of Sri N. Annamalai Pillai, a Member of this House, and the untimely demise of our esteemed and able Speaker, Dr. U. Krishna Rau.

When we adjourned in the first week of April last, we hardly knew that death was round the corner and would snatch away from our midst a lively Member of this House and a good friend. The late Sri Annamalai Pillai was a simple and sincere person, a staunch Congressman and a true patriot. He took active part in the movement for Independence since 1919 and courted imprrisonment several times. He served the Congress organization in several capacities. He was a Member of the Tiruvannamalai Municipal Council and the North Arcot District Board. He was elected to the Madras Legislative Assembly in 1937 and again in 1946. He was a Member of this House since 1952. On two occasions he was awarded medals by the Government for his meritorious service in the cause of Harijan Uplife. As hon. Members are aware, he was a doughty champion of the depressed classes and he never failed to plead their cause on the floor of this House repeatedly. He was a selfless worker and death has removed from our midst a good colleague.

I now move the Condolence Resolution :—

"This House places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Sri N. Annamalai Pillai, a Member of this House, and conveys its profound sympathy to the members of the bereaved family."

I request the hon. Members to stand in silence for a few minutes and pass the Resolution unanimously.

The Resolution was passed *nem. con.*, all the Members standing in silence for afew minutes.

(2) DEATH OF DR. U. KRISHNA RAU, SPEAKER, MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I now rise for a second time to refer to the sad and untimely death of my esteemed colleague and Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Dr. U. Krishna Rau. In a sense, during the last few weeks, we had been anxious and full of apprehension about his health and recovery. But it never struck us that he would leave us so soon. The Speaker, Dr. U. Krishna Rau, is dead and he is no more with us.

Dr. U. Krishna Rau played a full and fruitful part in the public life of this State. Actively associated with the Congress organisation since 1930, he served the country and the people in various capacities. As a Councillor of the Corporation of Madras for over two decades from 1930 and as Mayor of Madras for a term in 1947–48, he rendered great and distinguished service as a City Father and First Citizen of the City respectively. He was elected to the Madras Legislative Assembly in 1952 and as Minister for Industries and Labour during 1952–54, he discharged his duties with great distinction. Returned to the Legislative Assembly again in 1957, he was elected Speaker, which office he held with great distinction and conspicuous ability till death removed him from our midst. As Joint President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Madras Branch, he visited Trinidad, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Japan, and distinguished himself in more ways than one. Many of us had come into contact with the Speaker, Dr. Krishna Rau, in other fields also because of his great interest in everything that was good. He was associated with a number of institutions and various social service organisations, besides being a Member of the Syndicate of the Madras University.

As Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Dr. Krishna Rau has made history and has left behind a great tradition. He held the scales even and upheld the dignity and prestige of the House as well as the privileges of the Members and endeared himself to all the Members of the House irrespective of their political affiliations. His sense of duty was so high that even while he was seriously ill during the last Budget Session, he was at the post of his duty until he was physically unable to take the Chair. His activities in other fields are too well-known to need any